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Message Text

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ORIGIN ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 DHA-02 ORM-01 AID-05 IO-10 INT-05

SSO-00 HEW-02 PRS-01 /034 R

DRAFTED BY IATF:RVKEELEY:SBA
APPROVED BY IATF:JVTAFT
---------- 027011
O 182028Z SEP 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI IMMEDIATE
INFO CP PENDLETON IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 222847

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: REPATRIATES: PROTEST BY SPEAKER OF GUAM
LEGISLATURE

FOR SENIOR CIVIL COORDINATORS

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE ASAP TO MR. JOSEPH F.
ADA, SPEAKER, THIRTEENTH GUAM LEGISLATURE. IT IS IN
ANSWER TO TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM HIM SEPTEMBER 17 WHICH IS
BEING REPEATED TO YOU SEPTEL.

2. QUOTE. DEAR MR. ADA:
I AM REPLYING TO YOUR TELEGRAM, RECEIVED YESTERDAY
SEPTEMBER 17, REGARDING THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH
ABOUT THE TRANSFER OF REFUGEE REPATRIATES FROM CAMP
PENDLETON TO THE REPATRIATE CENTER ON GUAM.
THE FACTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: ABOUT 30 VIETNAMESE REPATRI-
ATES ARE SCHEDULED TO MOVE FROM CAMP PENDLETON TO GUAM ON
OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 19 ONE REFUGEE -- NOT 20 AS YOU STATE
WAS REPORTED BY AP -- THREATENED TO BURN HIMSELF IF WE
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REFUSED TO MOVE THE GROUP FROM PENDLETON TO GUAM, WHERE
THEY COULD JOIN THE REST OF THE REPATRIATES AWAITING
PERMISSION TO RETURN TO SOUTH VIETNAM. THE VIOLENCE THAT
WAS THREATENED WAS INTENDED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR INTENSE

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DESIRE TO BE MOVED TO GUAM. IN ANY CASE, PLEASE BE
ASSURED THAT THEY WILL BE HOUSED SEPARATELY FROM THE
REPATRIATES ALREADY ON GUAM, SO THERE WILL BE NO OPPOR-
TUNITY FOR THEM TO INCITE THE OTHERS SHOULD THEY SO WISH.
I REGRET THAT WHAT WAS SAID TO THE LT. GOVERNOR AND
SENATOR HERE ON SEPTEMBER 12 WAS MISUNDERSTOOD. THEY
WERE ASSURED THAT WE HAVE CEASED TO MOVE ANY NEW REFUGEES
COMING FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA INTO OR THROUGH GUAM, BUT IT
WAS INDICATED THAT WE INTENDED TO REGROUP ON GUAM THOSE
FEW VIETNAMESE REFUGEES STILL IN THE UNITED STATES WHO
WISH TO BE REPATRIATED AND THAT THIS WOULD BE DONE PRIOR
TO ANY FURTHER MOVEMENT ON TO SOUTH VIETNAM. IT IS SUCH
A REGROUPMENT THAT IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19.
THE TIMING OF THIS MOVEMENT WAS SET TO COINCIDE WITH
THE ARRIVAL ON GUAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION-
ER FOR REFUGEES WHO HAS BEEN INVITED TO MEET PERSONALLY
WITH THE REPATRIATES FOLLOWING HIS TRIP TO HANOI. HIS
SCHEDULE NOW CALLS FOR AN EXTENDED VISIT IN VIETNAM WHERE
HE IS NEGOTIATING FINAL REPATRIATION. WE ARE HOPEFUL HE
WILL FLY TO GUAM ABOUT SEPT. 28 FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH
REPATRIATES.
ON SEPT. 16, 21 REPATRIATES DEPARTED GUAM, SO THE 30
WHO ARE COMING THERE WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE
NUMBER OF REPATRIATES ON THE ISLAND, ESPECIALLY WHEN
COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL NUMBER OF 1560 REPATRIATES
ALREADY IN THE CAMP THERE. SIXTY-SIX NON-REPATRIATE
REFUGEES LEFT GUAM FOR THE UNITED STATES ON SEPT. 16 WITH
STILL MORE BEING PROCESSED. THUS, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
REFUGEES ON GUAM CONTINUES TO DECREASE EVERY WEEK.
IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO MOVE THE REPATRIATES TO
WAKE ISLAND. THE REPATRIATES ARE DETERMINED NOT TO BE
MOVED ANYWHERE EXCEPT TO SOUTH VIETNAM. THE SUREST WAY
TO PROVOKE THEM INTO A VIOLENT REACTION WOULD BE TO
TRY TO MOVE THEM TO WAKE, TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE
SECURITY AND TRANQUILITY OF THE PEOPLE OF GUAM. NOW THAT
A NEW AND MODERATE LEADERSHIP IS IN CHARGE AMONGST THE
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REPATRIATES, I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE THAT WE DO NOT WANT
TO DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD PROVOKE THEM TO RESORT TO
VIOLENCE.
I AGREE THAT THE PEOPLE OF GUAM HAVE BEEN PATIENT
REGARDING THE REFUGEE SITUATION, AND MY ONLY REQUEST IS
THAT YOU AND THEY CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE SUCH PATIENCE
WHILE WE TRY TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF THE REPATRIATES
IN A MANNER SATISFACTORY TO ALL. JULIA VADALA TAFT,
DIRECTOR, IATF. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, REPATRIATION, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE222847
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IATF:RVKEELEY:SBA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750324-0507
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197509105/baaaabxq.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ITFE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 Sep 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <29 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: SREF, XC, US, GQ, VS, (ADA, JOSEPH F), (TAFT, JULIA V)
To: CINCPACREP GUAM TTPI INFO CP PENDLETON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006